

JOE SHANNON, JR.
CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY
TARRANT COUNTY TEXAS



Contact:

Melody McDonald

Public Information Officer

Phone: 817-884-3120

Cell: 817-821-3935

mjmcDonald@tarrantcounty.com

Twitter: @TarrantDAOoffice

Tim Curry Criminal
Justice Center
401 W. Belknap St.
Fort Worth, TX
76196
817-884-1400

Press Release

For Immediate Release

April 13, 2012

Jurors Sentence Sex Offender to 50 Years for Failing to Register

It took a Tarrant County jury 49 minutes on Thursday to sentence a convicted sex offender to 50 years in prison for failing to register.

Earlier in the day, the jury deliberated about an hour before convicting Daniel Ostrander, 45, of failing to register as a sex offender—a crime that carried a punishment range of 25 years to life in prison because of Ostrander’s past history.

During the trial, prosecutors Molly Davis and D.J. Estes presented evidence that when Ostrander was released from prison in 2010 after serving most of his 25-year sentence for sexual assault of a child, he was required to live in a halfway house and register with the Fort Worth Police Department’s S.C.R.A.M. (Sex Crimes Registration Apprehension and Monitoring)

Unit.

On August 14, 2010, four days before his scheduled appointment with the S.C.R.A.M. Unit, Ostrander cut off his GPS monitor and left the halfway house.

Ostrander was on the lam for two months when, on October 22, 2010, he called police from a Fort Worth bus station and said he wanted to turn himself in because he was tired of being homeless.

While awaiting his trial for failing to register as a sex offender, Ostrander caused untold grief to deputies in the Tarrant County Jail by throwing feces, damaging the plumbing and heckling them.

During his trial this week before visiting state district Judge Phillip Vick, Ostrander’s disruptive behavior continued. He had



Daniel Ostrander

wild outbursts, yelled at the jury and called witnesses and prosecutors names.

At one point, he told the jury, “If you give me anything else than 99 years, I will think you’re weak.”

He eventually was removed from the courtroom for the duration of his trial.

“This jury made it clear that they expect offenders who are released into our community to follow the law,” said prosecutor D.J. Estes. “Registration is not an option – it’s the law.”